STATE OF ARIZONA FILED

STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

OCT 2 0 1994

In the Matter of:

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DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

THE CREDIT LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Docket No.: 8575

CONSENT ORDER

A market conduct examination was made of The Credit Life Insurance Company now known as Union Fidelity Insurance Company (hereinafter "Respondent") by a Market Conduct Examiner of the Arizona Department of Insurance (hereinafter "the Department"). Said market conduct examination covered the time period of January 1, 1989, through July 31, 1992 and covers the insurance provided by the then Credit Life Insurance Company for this time period. This insurance coverage along with the type of insurance coverage provided by The Credit Life Insurance Company during this time period is referred to in this Consent Order as "financial institution business". Based upon the examination results, the Department is prepared to issue a Notice of Hearing alleging that Respondent has violated certain provisions of Title 20, Arizona Revised Statutes (hereinafter and the Arizona Administrative Code "A.R.S.") "A.A.C.") as set forth below in the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law. Respondent wishes to resolve this matter without formal adjudicative proceedings and hereby agrees to a Consent Order.

The Director of Insurance of the State of Arizona (hereinafter "the Director") enters the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, which are neither admitted nor denied by Respondent, and issues the following Order:

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FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent is authorized to transact life and disability insurance in the State of Arizona pursuant to a Certificate of Authority issued by the Director.
- 2. The Examiner was authorized by the Director to conduct a market conduct examination of Respondent and has prepared a report entitled Report of Examination of the Market Conduct Affairs of The Credit Life Insurance Company (hereinafter "the Report"). The period covered by the on-site examination was January 1, 1989, through July 31, 1992.
- During the time period covered by the Report, 3. Respondent marketed its products in Arizona through intermediary called Ryan Financial Services, Inc. Αt no material time did Ryan Financial Services, Inc., hold a valid agent's license in the State of Arizona.
- During the course of the examination conducted by 4, the Department's Examiner, Respondent failed to locate produce: rescission file #310469011B One requested by the Examiner; 10 the 31 credit insurance ofapplication files requested by the Examiner; three of the 17 mortgage insurance application files requested by the Examiner; and one of eight declined application files requested by the Examiner.
- 5. On five of the 21 credit life contracts reviewed by the Examiner, Respondent had understated the amount of coverage on both the application and the certificate of insurance.
- 6. Respondent's credit life application form No. A570 used during the time period covered by the Report failed to

provide a notice of insurance information practices related to personal information obtained in the application process.

- 7. Respondent's mortgage insurance application forms No. Q665, Q142 and Q159 used during the time period covered by the Report failed to provide a notice of insurance information practices related to personal information obtained in the application process.
- 8. During the time period covered by the Report, Respondent failed to implement and maintain a program to review creditors with which it does business to ensure their compliance with relevant insurance laws.
- 9. Respondent's decreasing term mortgage insurance application forms. No. Q142 and Q159 used during the time period covered by the Report failed to include questions regarding replacement of coverage of the proposed insured and/or the agent.
- 10. During the time period covered by the Report, Respondent failed to implement and maintain a replacement register.
- 11. Of the 458 Arizona claims paid by Respondent during the subject time period, the Examiner reviewed 61 (13.3%) of the claim files. As to the 61 paid claims reviewed, Respondent:
 - a. failed to acknowledge receipt of notification of claim within ten (10) working days in two claim files;
 - b. failed to notify the claimant of the acceptance or denial of the claim within 15 working days after receiving the proof of loss in one claim file;

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c. failed to notify the claimant of the need for additional investigation of the claim within 15 working days after receiving the proof of loss in one claim file.

- 12. Of the six Arizona claims denied by Respondent during the subject time period, the Examiner reviewed six (100%) of the claim files. As to the six denied claims reviewed, Respondent:
 - a. failed to acknowledge receipt of notification of claim within ten (10) working days in one claim file; and
 - b. failed to notify the claimant of the acceptance or denial of the claim within 15 working days after receiving the proof of loss in one claim file.
- 13. Respondent failed to acknowledge receipt of the claim and/or other pertinent communications from the claimant within ten working days in three, or 4.5%, of the 67 paid and denied claims reviewed by the Examiner.
- 14. Respondent failed to accept or deny first-party claims within 15 working days after receipt of properly executed proofs of loss in two, or 3%, of the 67 paid and denied claims reviewed by the Examiner.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Director has jurisdiction in this matter.
- 2. The misstatement of the correct amount of coverage applications on and certificates of credit life insurance constitutes the failure of Respondent to set forth on each individual policy or group certificate of credit life

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insurance or credit disability insurance a description of the amount, term and coverage as required by A.R.S. Section 20-1608(C).

- 3. The omission by Respondent of a notice of insurance information practices from insurance application forms constitutes a violation of A.R.S. Section 20-2104.
- 4. The failure of Respondent to implement and maintain a program to periodically review creditors with which it transacts business to ensure compliance with Arizona insurance laws constitutes a violation of A.A.C. R4-14-604(I)(1).
- 5. The omission by Respondent of questions regarding the replacement of coverage to the proposed insured and/or the agent from its decreasing term mortgage insurance applications constitutes a violation of A.A.C. R4-14-215(F)(2)(a) and (b).
- 6. The failure of Respondent to implement and maintain a replacement register constitutes a violation of A.A.C. R4-14-215(F)(3)(f).
- 7. The failure by Respondent to acknowledge receipt of notification of a claim within 10 working days of receipt of said notification unless the claim is paid within that time period constitutes three violations of A.A.C. R4-14-801(E)(1).
- 8. The failure by Respondent to notify the claimant of acceptance or denial of the claim within 15 working days after receiving the proof of loss constitutes two violations of A.A.C. R4-14-801(G)(1)(a).
- 9. The failure by Respondent to notify the claimant of the need for additional investigation of the claim within 15

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27 28 working days after receiving the proof of loss constitutes one violation of A.A.C. R4-14-801(G)(1)(b).

10. Grounds exist for the entry of all other provisions of the following Order.

ORDER

Respondent having admitted the jurisdiction of the Director to enter the order set forth herein, having waived the Notice of Hearing and the hearing, having waived any and all rights to appeal this Order, and having consented to the entry of the Order set forth hereinafter, and there being no just reason for delay:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

Respondent shall cease and desist from failing to set forth a description of the amount, term and coverage on each individual policy or group certificate of credit life insurance orcredit disability insurance; fromusing any insurance application forms in this State which omit a notice of insurance information practices; from failing to implement and maintain a program to periodically review the creditors with which it does business to ensure compliance with relevant insurance laws; from using decreasing term mortgage insurance applications which omit questions regarding replacement of coverage to both the proposed insured and the agent; from failing to acknowledge receipt of notification of a claim within 10 working days of receipt of said notification unless the claim is paid within that time; from failing to notify the claimant of acceptance or denial of the claim within 15 working days after receiving the proof of loss; and from failing to notify the claimant of the need for

additional investigation of the claim within 15 working days after receiving the proof of loss.

- 2. Respondent shall develop and send to the ADOI within sixty (60) days of the filed date of this Order a written action plan for its financial institution business acceptable to the Department to monitor and ensure strict compliance with A.R.S. Section 20-1608(C), A.A.C. R4-14-215(F)(3)(f), A.A.C. R4-14-604(I)(1), and with the claims processing requirements of A.R.S. Sections 20-461 and 20-462, and A.A.C. R4-14-801.
- 3. Respondent shall submit to the ADOI within sixty (60) days of the filed date of this Order for the Department's approval all application forms currently in use by Respondent for its block of financial instituton business in the State of Arizona for compliance with A.A.C. R4-14-215(E)(1)(a) and (b), A.A.C. R4-14-215(F)(2)(a) and (b) and A.R.S. Section 20-2104(B) and (C).
- 4. The Department shall be permitted, through an authorized representative, to verify that Respondent has complied with all provisions of this Order, and the Director may separately order Respondent to comply.
- 5. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000) to the Director for remission to the State Treasurer for deposit to the State General Fund in accordance with A.R.S. Section 20-220(B). Said civil penalty shall be provided to the Administrative Law Division of the Department on or before October 10, 1994.

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6. The Report of Market Conduct Examination as of July 31, 1992, to include Respondent's March 2, 1994, and March 16, 1994, responses to the Report, shall be filed with the Department as of the effective date of this Order.

DATED at Phoenix, Arizona, this 20th day of October, 1994

Chris Herstam

CHRIS HERSTAM

DIRECTOR OF INSURANCE

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October 6, 1994
Date

CONSENT TO ORDER

- 1. Respondent, THE CREDIT LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY nka
 UNION FIDELITY INSURANCE COMPANY, has reviewed the foregoing
 Order.
- 2. Respondent is aware of its right to a hearing in this matter at which hearing Respondent may be represented by counsel, present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. Respondent has irrevocably waived its right to such public hearing and to any court appeals relating thereto.
- 3. Respondent admits the jurisdiction of the Director of Insurance, State of Arizona, and consents to the entry of this Order.
- 4. Respondent states that no promise of any kind or nature whatsoever was made to induce it to enter into this Order and that it has entered into this Order voluntarily.
- 5. Respondent akcnowledges that the acceptance of this Order by the Director of Insurance, State of Arizona, is solely for the purpose of settling this litigation against it and does not preclude any other agency or officer of this State or any subdivision thereof from instituting other civil or criminal proceedings as may be appropriate now or in the future.
- 6. M. Nasim Ali represents that as the

 Senior Vice President of Respondent that he/she has been authorized by Respondent to enter into this Order for and on its behalf.

THE CREDIT LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY nka UNION FIDELTIY INSURANCE COMPANY

- W. hasin ali

Name/Title M. Nasim Ali

Senior Vice President

1 COPY of the foregoing mailed/delivered this 20th day of October , 1994, to: 2 Gay Ann Williams 3 Deputy Director Gregory Y. Harris 4 Chief Administrative Law Judge Erin Klüa 5 Manager Market Conduct Examinations Division 6 Saul Saulson Supervisor 7 Examinations Section Shirley Polzin 8 Supervisor Life and Disability Section 9 Deloris E. Williamson Assistant Director 10 Rates & Regulations Division Maureen Catalioto (Orders referencing agents only) 11 Supervisor Licensing Section 12 Gary Torticill Assistant Director and Chief Financial Examiner 13 Corporate & Financial Affairs Division Kathy O'Neil 14 Assistant Director Consumer Services and Investigations 15 Mary Butterfield (L&D Orders only) Manager 16 Health Policy Division 17 DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE 2910 North 44th Street, Suite 210 18 Phoenix, AZ 85018 19 Joseph D. Fagen, Esq. Union Fidelity Life Insurance Co. 20 123 N. Wacker Drive Chicago, Illinois 60606 21 22 23 24 25

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